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PATENT

Docket No. 2026-4298US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Zuzana KOSSACZKA et al. Group Art Unit: 1645
Serial No : 09/653,433 Examiner: Virginia Allen Portner
Filed : September 1, 2000
For : **A METHOD OF IMMUNIZING HUMANS AGAINST
SALMONELLA TYPHI USING A Vi-rEPA CONJUGATE
VACCINE**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 5, 2001, in which the Examiner subjected pending claims 1 to 15 to a restriction requirement under 35 USC §121. A response to the Office Action is due on or before January 5, 2002, without an extension of time, therefore, this response is timely filed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner restricted the claims into the following 4 groups: Group I: claims 1-5, 12-14 (method of inducing an immune response or a protective immune response; Group II: claims 6-10 (antibodies immunoreactive with polysaccharide antigen); Group III: claim 11 (method of passive immunization); and Group IV: claims 14-15 (conjugate of a polysaccharide to Pseudomonas aeruginosa exoprotein A through a dihydrazide linker). In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, i.e. claims 1-5 and 12-14.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: January 4, 2002

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